

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-07 SWF-02 L-03 TRSE-00 DRC-01

/133 W

----- 073311

R 191255Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3257

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWTN UNCTAD, UN, LI
SUBJECT: SHIPPING: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LINER CONFERENCES

REF: MONROVIA 5250

1. INTRUSCO REPRESENTATIVE HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT KEY AMCIT EXECUTIVES HIS FIRM WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR LIBERIAN MARITIME AFFAIRS HAVE STUDIED CONVENTION ON CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LINER CONFERENCES AS WELL AS USG VIEWS ON SUBJECT. THEY SHARE OUR CONCERN IN ALL RESPECTS, AND AGREE THAT LIBERIA'S INTERESTS WOULD BEST BE SERVED IF CONVENTION DOES NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE. AS RESULT, IF ASKED, INTRUSCO WOULD RECOMMEND STRONGLY AGAINST SIGNATURE/RATIFICATION BY LIBERIA. HOWEVER, INTRUSCO OF OPINION THAT (AS OFTEN HAPPENS) GOL MAY HAVE FORGOTTEN CONVENTION, AND DOES NOT FEEL THERE ANY IMMEDIATE DANGER OF ACTION. THEREFORE, THEY WOULD PREFER NOT TAKE ANY ACTION, OR HAVE EMBASSY TAKE ANY ACTION, UNLESS AND UNTIL THERE SOME INDICATION THAT THERE SOME MOVEMENT IN THE AREA. INDEED, INTRUSCO FEARS THAT TO RAISE ISSUE MAY SERVE ONLY TO REMIND GOL OF QTE OBLIGATION UNQTE MAKE GOOD ON COMMITMENT TO GROUP OF 77.

2. WHILE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT MUCH OF INTRUSCO ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION MAY BE ACCURATE, WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT WE WOULD BE REMISS IN NOT ADVISING GOL OF OUR MISGIVINGS WITH REGARD TO CONVENTION. WE FEEL THAT, BECAUSE ISSUE NOT SEEN AS KEY ONE FOR GOL, THERE MAY BE DANGER OF ROUTINE SIGNATURE BY MINFONAFFS WITHOUT REFERRAL TO MINFINANCE OR INTRUSCO. THEREFORE, WE ADVISED INTRUSCO THAT WE FEEL BOUND TO RAISE MATTER EITHER WITH MINFONAFFS OR COMMISSIONER MARITIME AFFAIRS.

3. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, EMBASSY HAS WORKED OUT PLAN OF ACTION WITH INTRUSCO AS FOLLOWS:
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A. INTRUSCO WILL MAKE ITS MISGIVINGS OVER CONVENTION KNOWN TO MINFONAFFS AT HIGH LEVEL, PROBABLY THE DEPUTY MINISTER, WITH AIM OF INSURING THAT NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN WITHOUT FULL CONSULTATION WITH MINFINANCE AND INTRUSCO;
B. INTRUSCO WILL BRIEF MARITIME COMMISSION IN MINFINANCE ON CONVENTION AND POTENTIAL DANGERS IT POSES FOR LIBERIAN FLAG-OF-CONVENIENCE MERCHANT FLEET OPERATIONS;

C. EMBOFF WILL THEN CALL ON PERSON IN MARITIME COMMISSION
BRIEFED BY INTRUSCO (PROBABLY DEPUTY COMMISSIONER COOPER SINCE
COMMISSIONER JOHN WISSEH MCLAIN--PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S NEPHEW--
WILL GO TO WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK AS MEMBER LIBERIAN DELEGATION
TO IMF/IBRD MEETING) AND CALL ATTENTION IN LOW KEY MANNER TO
USG VIEWS ON CONVENTION; AND
D. INTRUSCO WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR SITUATION AND
ADVISE EMBASSY IF ANY GOL ACTION APPEARS LIKELY.

4. BOTH EMBASSY AND INTRUSCO HOPE THAT GOL CAN BE MADE
AWARE THAT CONVENTION A COMPLICATED MATTER DESERVING CLOSE
STUDY IN LIGHT LIBERIA'S OWN VESTED INTERESTS WITHOUT RAISING
ISSUE OF GROUP OF 77 SOLIDARITY. BEAN

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Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
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